



AF 3621  
61

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q63958

Toshio YAGIHASHI, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/828,889

Group Art Unit: 3621

Confirmation No.: 7824

Examiner: Cristina O. SHERR

Filed: April 10, 2001

For: NETWORK-BASED DESIGN SERVICE SYSTEM AND ITS DESIGN METHOD

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JUN 10 2004  
GROUP 3600

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Shōjirō Mori et al., "Creating the Infrastructure for the SoC/IP Age", Toshiba Review, Japan, Toshiba Ltd., September 1, 1999, Vol. 54, 9, pg. 21-25.
2. Cheryl Ajluni, "Design Services that are Gathering Attention - Designer on Demand Implementation" Nikkei Electronics, Japan, Nikkei BP-sha, August 10, 1998, Vol. 723, pg. 110-119.
3. Hitoshi Imai, "Where' do Internet Businesses Make Money? Hints on Making Money in Internet Business - Fully Illustrated", Japan, Kabushiki Kaisha Asa Shuppan, January 7, 2000, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, pg. 31-42, Chapter 1, Hint 4.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 09/828,889

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee, and therefore Applicant is submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e).

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a corresponding Japanese Office Action dated March 26, 2004 and an English translation of the pertinent portions thereof which cites such documents and indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

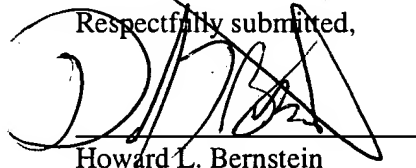
The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Howard L. Bernstein  
Registration No. 25,665

Date: June 4, 2004



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**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)**

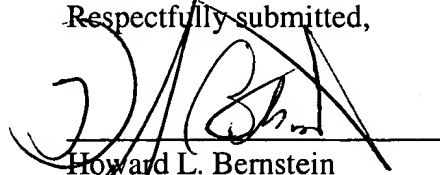
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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For Claims 1 and 4

Cited Literature 1–3

Remarks:

Cited Literature 1 and 2 describe how the designer of a semiconductor integrated circuit accesses a design support server via a network, and the design support server performs billing processing for billing the designer. Cited Literature 3 describes typical styles of business using the Internet.

#### List of Cited Literature

1. Shōjirō Mori et al. “Creating the infrastructure for the SoC/IP age.” Toshiba Review, Japan, Toshiba Ltd., September 1, 1999. Vol. 54, 9, pp. 21–25
2. Cheryl Ajluni, “Design services that are gathering attention – Designer on demand implementation.” Nikkei Electronics, Japan, Nikkei BP-sha, August 10, 1998. Vol. 723, pp. 110–119
3. Hitoshi Imai. “‘Where’ do Internet businesses make money? Hints on making money in Internet business – Fully illustrated.” Japan, *Kabushiki Kaisha Asa Shuppan*, January 7, 2000, 1<sup>st</sup> edition, pp. 31–42, Chapter 1, Hint 4

